

between the fuel passageway and the fuel outlet, the seat surface being spaced from the portion of the needle in a second position of the needle to permit fuel flow through the fuel outlet, the seat surface being oblique to the longitudinal axis; and

a plurality of passages, each of the plurality of passages having a passage surface extending along a central axis that defines an angle of inclination relative to the longitudinal axis, a portion of the passage surface aligned with the surface of the seat.

8. (Twice Amended) A spray pattern of fuel generated by a fuel injector comprising:

a fuel injector including:

a fuel inlet, a fuel outlet, a fuel passageway extending from the fuel inlet to the fuel outlet along a longitudinal axis, a body, a needle slidably disposed within the body between a first position and a second position, a seat surface contiguous to a portion of the needle in the first position to form a seal between the fuel passageway and the fuel outlet, the seat surface being spaced from the portion of the needle in a second position of the needle to permit fuel flow through the fuel outlet that generates a spray pattern, the seat surface being oblique to the longitudinal axis, a plurality of passages, each of the plurality of passages having a passage surface extending along a central axis that defines an angle of inclination relative to the longitudinal axis, a portion of the passage surface aligned with the surface of the seat; and the spray pattern including:

at least two portions of fuel, the fuel being combustible in a combustion chamber of an internal combustion engine, wherein a first portion includes a fan shape spray of fuel and the second portion includes at least one plume of fuel adjacent the fan shape spray.